Application No.: 09/678,516 Attorney Docket No.: 17499

Page 3

Delete claims 2 and 3.

Add the following new claims 21-28:

22. (New) A modular jack connector assembly comprising:

a dielectric housing having a front and rear orientation and defining at least one receptacle adapted for receiving an RJ standard compliant mating plug; and a plurality of contacts disposed in said housing, each contact being secured to a rear portion of said housing, each contact extending forward from said rear portion to a free end such that a portion of said contact forward of said rear portion electrically connects with a mating plug when the mating plug is received within said receptacle wherein said contacts are less thick and more narrow than those conforming to RJ-standards.

- 22. (New) The assembly of claim 21, wherein the thickness of said contacts is about 25 to about 75% below that required under the RJ-standards, and the width of said contacts is about 5 to about 15% below that required under RJ-standards.
- 23. (New) The assembly of claim 21, wherein said contacts have a normal force which is about 30% to about 80% below the RJ-standard for normal force.
- 24. (New) The assembly of claim 21, wherein said contacts have a normal force less than about 50g.

S. 32

Application No.: 09/678,516 Attorney Docket No.: 17499

Page 4

25. (New) The assembly of claim 21, wherein the thickness of said contacts is about 0.005 to about 0.014" and the width of said contacts is about 0.014 and about 0.016".

- 26. (New) The assembly of claim 21, wherein said receptacle is configured to receive plugs that conform to the RJ-11 standard.
- 27. (New) The assembly of claim 21, wherein said receptacle is configured to receive plugs that conform to the RJ-45 standard.
- 28. (New) The assembly of claim 27, wherein said contacts are sufficiently compliant such that if an RJ-11 plug is inserted fully into said receptacle, the elastic limit of said contacts is not exceeded.

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Without prejudice, the claims have been amended to clarify the invention and facilitate prosecution. Specifically, independent claim 1 has been amended with the subject matter of claim 2 and to clarify that the slot is a card edge receiving slot. Support for the latter amendment can be found on page 6, line 30 through page 7, line 15. Claims 2 and 3 have been deleted. New claims 21-28 have been added. Claim 21 finds support in original